



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): KATO et al.

Serial No.: 10/066,769

Filed: February 6, 2002

For: VACUUM PROCESSING APPARATUS AND OPERATING
METHOD THEREFOR

Group: 3749

Examiner: Unassigned

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97 AND §1.98

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Pursuant to Applicants' duty of disclosure, enclosed please find copies of documents to be considered by the Examiner during prosecution of the above-identified application. Also enclosed is a Form, substantially equivalent to Form P PTO-1449, listing the enclosed documents.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted prior to a first Office Action on the merits in the above-identified application. Accordingly, requirements of 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b) are clearly satisfied.

To the extent that the enclosed documents are not in English, it is respectfully submitted that requirements of 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) are satisfied by the enclosed English translations of the respective documents. In this regard, note that the boxed material with "A" in a circle is translated on the page beginning with "(A)"; and the

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Handwritten: 520.30414R52, #5, Jan. 24, 2003
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December 17, 2002

boxed material represented by the letter "B" in a circle is translated beginning on the page headed by "B".

In view of all of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that all applicable requirements of 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 and 1.98 have been satisfied, in connection with each of the documents list on the enclosed Form. Accordingly, consideration of the listed documents, upon examination of the above-identified application, is respectfully requested.

Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to the Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (Case No. 520.30414R52) and please credit any excess fees to such Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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Enclosures: PTO-1449
4 references

WIS/lms

Form PTO-1449

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

ATTY. DKT. NO.

520.30414R52

SERIAL NO.

10/066,769

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
BY APPLICANT

(Use several sheets if necessary)

APPLICANT

KATO et al.

FILING DATE

February 6, 2002

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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date
	AA					
	AB					
	AC					
	AD					
	AE					
	AF					
	AG					
	AH					
	AI					
	AJ					
	AK					
	AL					

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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation/Abstract	
						Yes	No
	AM	1-258438	10-16-89	Japan		X	
	AN						
	AO						
	AP						
	AQ						
	AR						
	AS						
	AT						

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OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

	AU	Office Action dated 9-3-2002, in corresponding Japanese Patent Application 2000-040579
	AV	Decision of the Tokyo High Court, Case No. 58, on oral proceedings, dated September 17, 2002
	AW	Office Action dated 9-3-2002, in corresponding Japanese Patent Application 2000-040580
	AX	
	AY	
	AZ	
Examiner		Date Considered